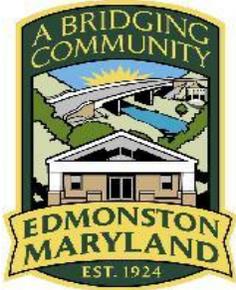


# EDMONSTON NEWS



Town of Edmonston  
5005 52nd Avenue  
Edmonston, Maryland 20781  
Phone: (301) 699-8806  
Email: [townhall@edmonston.us.com](mailto:townhall@edmonston.us.com)  
[www.porttowns.org/edmonston](http://www.porttowns.org/edmonston)



## Recent Legislative Actions by the Mayor and Council



### Regular Meeting of Mayor and Town Council January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010

1. Action to approve payment of Invoice # 2 for the amount of \$ 23,401.35 to VMP Construction Company for work performed on the Decatur St. Project. Motion by CM McCauley, seconded by CM Kerns; Motion Approved.  
*Mayor Ortiz in favor*
2. Action to approve payment of Invoice # 1 for the amount of \$ 27,810.00 to VMP Construction Company for electrical work performed on the Decatur St. Project. Motion by CM Farrish, seconded by CM Kerns; Motion Approved.  
*Mayor Ortiz in favor*
3. Action to approve Direct Power Technologies Inc. as the electrical engineering firm for the Decatur St. light project at a cost of \$ 5,000.00. Motion by CM Kerns, seconded by CM McCauley; Motion Approved.  
*Mayor Ortiz in favor*
4. Action to approve Mutual Aid Agreement for Police Services with the

City of Hyattsville, City of Greenbelt, Maryland, City of Laurel, Maryland, Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, City of Mt. Rainier, Maryland, Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland, Town of University Park, Maryland. Motion by CM McCauley, seconded by CM Farrish; Motion Approved.

*Mayor Ortiz in favor*

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### ***Homestead Tax Credit***

Property owners who use the property as their principal residence will receive an assessment notice containing a Homestead Tax Credit Application. This one-time application must be submitted in order to insure that the credit is granted only on eligible properties and not on properties that are rented or used as vacation homes.

*Commonly asked questions on the homestead tax credit application*

1. What is the Homestead Tax Credit?  
The homestead credit limits the amount of assessment increase on which a homeowner will pay property taxes in that tax year on the one property actually used as the owner's principal residence.
  2. Why should I want to submit the homestead application?
-

Because of assessment increases most homeowners receive a substantial homestead credits each year on their property tax bills. In Prince George's County, the government has been limiting assessment increases to 5%.

### *From the Mayor's Desk*

Dear neighbor,

Hope you are having a healthy and safe New Year. As many of you know, the Port Towns Community Development Corporation (CDC) is the collaborative community development organization for Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City, and Edmonston. The CDC was established about 10 years ago to solve the problems that our small towns could not accomplish alone. For example: moving the railroad tracks above the street on 450, building Bladensburg Waterfront Park, making streets and sidewalks along state highways safer and walkable, helping struggling businesses with marketing, promoting our area to attract more investment and working with investors to rebuild our broken down and underused commercial properties.

Recently, Edmonston has benefitted in a number of ways from our involvement in the Port Towns. Edmonston businesses have received more than \$200,000 in funding for improvements, a Port Towns grant paid for the mural on the Decatur Street Bridge, and through the Port Towns, the zoning has been changed from mostly industrial to mixed use,



so businesses like restaurants, doctors' offices, grocery stores, and pharmacies can be built in areas such as Kenilworth Avenue. It will take time for that to happen, but now there is no legal obstacle to our improvement. Also, being a part of the Port Towns has increased our voice in the state. Instead of being a single voice asking for sidewalks on Kenilworth, we are part of a united group of other small towns asking for the same things. We have established ourselves as a collaborative group of locals who want to transform our community, and people throughout the state have taken notice.

After serving five years on its board I was recently elected its President. I have strongly believed in the goals of the Port Towns CDC and am honored to be in this new position and will continue to bring the perspectives of Edmonston to the table. I think it is good for the CDC, and for Edmonston.

On a different but related note, the Port Towns have established a partnership with the healthcare organization Kaiser Permanente. They have launched the Port Towns Community Health Partnership and are focused on improving health and wellness in our community, especially our young people. They are looking for volunteers from the community, so please let me know if you are interested in helping them out.

If you have ideas for how we can make the Port Towns better, please let me or your councilmember know. I can be reached at [mayorortiz@gmail.com](mailto:mayorortiz@gmail.com) or contact town hall.

Your Mayor,

Adam

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## Desde el Escritorio del Alcalde

Estimado vecino,

Hope tiene un nuevo año sano y seguro.



Como es de conocimiento de muchos el Centro de Desarrollo de la Comunidad de Port Towns (CDC) es la organización de desarrollo de comunidad colaboración de Bladensburg, Colmar Manor, Cottage City y Edmonston.

El CDC se estableció hace unos 10 años para resolver los problemas que por nosotros mismos solo no eran posibles por ser un pueblo pequeño. Por ejemplo: la movilización de la vías del tren por encima de la calle en la 450, el parque de Bladensburg Waterfront, la construcción de calles y aceras a lo largo de carreteras estatales, haciendo lo más seguros y transitable, ayuda a lo empresas locales para promover nuestra área para atraer más inversiones y trabajar con los inversionistas para rehabilitar áreas que están en deterioro y vacías.

Recientemente, Edmonston ha recibido sido beneficios por estar envueltos con Port Towns. Los negocios Edmonston han recibido más de \$200,000 dólares en fondos para mejoras, gracias a una concesión de lo Port Town e logro el pago por el mural en el puente de la calle de Decatur, se logro que la zonificación sea cambiada de industrial para uno de uso mixto. Esto permitirá que empresas como restaurantes, oficinas de médicos, tiendas y farmacias puedan construirse en áreas tales como la Avenida de Kenilworth. Hará falta tiempo para que eso

suceda, pero ahora no hay ningún obstáculo jurídico q impedirá las mejoras.

Además, a ser parte de Port Town, nuestra voz en el estado, ha aumentado. En lugar de ser una sola voz pidiendo aceras en Kenilworth, somos parte de un grupo Unido de otros pueblos pequeños pidiendo las mismas cosas. Nos hemos afianzado como un grupo colaborativo de locales que quieren transformar nuestra comunidad y personas a lo largo del Estado lo han notado.

Después de haber estado cinco años en su Junta, recientemente fui elegido como su Presidente. He creído firmemente en los objetivos del CDC y estoy honrado a estar en esta nueva posición y seguirá llevar las perspectivas de la Edmonston a la mesa. Yo creo es son bueno para los CDC y para Edmonston.

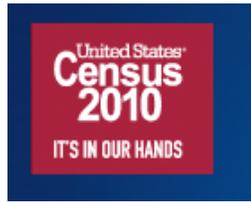
En una nota diferente pero relacionada, los Port Towns han establecido una asociación con la organización de cuidado de la salud Káiser Permanente. Se ha puesto en marcha la Asociación de salud de comunidad de Port Towns. Se centra en mejorar la salud y bienestar en nuestra comunidad, especialmente los jóvenes. Están buscando voluntarios de la Comunidad, así que por favor déjeme saber si estás interesado en ayudarlos.

Si tienes ideas de cómo podemos hacer que los Port Town sean mejor, yo le ruego que me dejen saber o a su concejal saber. Pueden comunicarse con migo por correo electrónico al [mayorortiz@gmail.com](mailto:mayorortiz@gmail.com) también a la alcaldía.

Su alcalde,

Adam

## Census 2010



*We Can't Move  
Forward Until You Mail It Back*

Reasons to make yourself count!

1. It is easy and only takes a few minutes of your time to fill out.
2. It is important to determine your future political representation.
3. Federal and State funding for our community is based on the amount of residents. This allows us to provide you with the proper services.
4. It is safe and confidential. Your information will not be shared with any other agency, office or individual.
5. Participation is not only important, it is the law.

**No matter, what your legal status may be, please be counted!**

## Censo del 2010



*Para progresar,  
lo tenemos que  
enviar.*

Razones para  
hacerse contar:

1. Es fácil y solo toma unos minutos para llenar.
2. Es importante para determinar nuestra futura representación política.
3. Los fondos Federales y Estatales que recibimos son basados en la cantidad de residentes. Estos fondos son necesarios para proveerles con servicios adecuados.
4. Es seguro y confidencial. Su información personal no es

compartida con otras agencias,  
compañías individuos.

5. La participación no sólo es importante – es obligatoria, Es ley.

**¡No importe su cual sea su estatus, le pidamos que se haga contar!**

## Income Taxes

While filling your 2009 Income Taxes please be sure to place “Edmonston” in the space for Incorporated Town. This will assure that a proper share of your taxes is return to the Town.

## Business Owners meeting

The Town of Edmonston is in effort to reach out to Towns Business, for this we are holding an Edmonston Business meeting.



The Mayor and Town Council are encouraging all of the business in

Town (large or small), to send a representative to discuss ways the Town can help them flourish, and well as discuss any concerns or questions you might have.

A number of businesses have expressed their desire to form a Business Association to discuss mutual problems and have their voices heard as one. Mayor Ortiz and Town Council believe this idea has merit and will assist you in forming your association.

***Please attend this very important meeting. (Tentative date) Tuesday, February 23, 2010 @ 6pm at the Edmonston Town Hall***

## *Reunión para Dueños de Negocio*

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Nuestra ciudad de Edmonston busca mejorar la comunicación con los comerciantes para lo cual celebraremos una reunión con los dueños de negocios.

El alcalde y el Concejo animan a todos los comerciantes en ciudad (ya sean grandes o pequeños), enviar un representante para así poder discutir formas la ciudad puede ayudar a prosperar y así como discutir cualquier preocupación o pregunta puede tener.

Un número de empresarios ha expresado su deseo de formar una Asociación de negocios para discutir problemas mutuos y han escuchado sus voces como uno.

Nuestra Alcalde y el Consejo creen que es meritorio y le desean ayudarlos en la formación de su asociación.

*¡Por favor, asisten a esta reunión muy importante!* **(Fecha provisional) Martes 23 de febrero de 2010, @ 6 pm en la Alcaldía de Edmonston**

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*Here is something to look forward to...*

**Edmonston Day**  
**Saturday, June 12, 2009 from**  
**12:00 pm to 6:00 pm**

**Edmonston Recreation Center**  
**Tanglewood Drive,**  
**Edmonston Maryland**

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## *Code Enforcement*

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It's a new year and a good time to start off clean. We encourage everyone to make use of the bulk trash pickup service.

Call bates to schedule a pick up and place items (max of 3) outside by 6pm the day before pick up. It's a code violation to have (open storage; the exterior must remain clear of clutter, trash, debris) thank you in advance for your cooperation and we hope to see great improvement.

## *Aplicación de Código*

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Es un nuevo año y un buen momento para comenzar limpio. Animamos a todos a hacer uso del servicio de recogida de basura abultado.

Una vez llame a Bates para programar el recogido y coloque los artículos (máximo de 3) afuera por no menos de las 6 pm el día antes anterior. Es una violación de código que almacenamiento abierto; las exteriores debe permanecer libres de basura, desechos y ordenados) gracias de antemano por su cooperación y esperamos ver gran mejora.

## *Edmonston Recreation Center*

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Looking for a place to celebrate your next event?

The Town of Edmonston is currently the



administrator of the Edmonston Recreation Center on Tangle Wood drive.

Please Contact the Town Hall at (301)699-8806 or via email [townhall@wedmonstonmd.gov](mailto:townhall@wedmonstonmd.gov) for information on rates and availability.

### *Department of Public Works*

Our Public Works Department would like to thank all residents who have cooperated in keeping vehicles out of the road way, when there is a snow event.

During the last major storm our guys worked around the clock trying to maintain our streets accessibility. Our 2 man crew went up to 3. (Did you know one of our Code Enforcers is also good at plowing snow?)

We ask if your street has not been cleaned in a timely matter, let us know. Please be patient, we are doing everything possible to get to your area.

Our Public Works, Code Enforcement as well as Police Department are here to provide you service. Remember while you are warm in your homes, they are out in the cold, on the street working for you!



### *Departamento de Obras Públicas*

Nuestro departamento de obras públicas quisiera dar las gracias a todos los residentes cómo han cooperado en el mantener los automóviles fuera de la carretera, cuando hay un evento de nieve.

Durante la última tormenta, nuestro equipo trabajaba alrededor del reloj tratando de mantener nuestras calles accesibles. Nuestro equipo compuesto por 2 hombres logro convertirse en uno de 3. (¿Sabías que uno de nuestros agentes de código también es bueno en arando nieve?)

Le pedimos que si no se ha limpiado su calle, háganoslo saber. Por favor, tenga paciencia, estamos haciendo todo lo posible llegar a su área. Nuestros departamentos de Obras

Publicas, de Aplicación de Código y el de la Policía están para servirles. Recuerde que mientras usted se mantiene calentito en su hogar ellos están en el frio y en la nieve ellos trabajando para ti.



## *From the Office of the Chief of Police*

Message from the Chief  
2009 - The year in review!

As we begin another decade in the 21st Century Edmonston continues to move forward in improving our services to the community and making this a great place to live and work! Listed below are some of the accomplishments achieved by the Police Department over the last year. With your continued help and support we will continue to move forward and improve our community.

Some of the police department's accomplishments and initiatives from 2009 are:

- Purchase of a new police car; this completes a complete replacement of our aging fleet since 2007. We are now on a regular vehicle replacement schedule.
- We received an award of approximately \$40,000.00 to replace our current in car cameras. This enables our police department to ensure proper accountability for all officers what are taking enforcement action. Specifically this means that when police officers are making a traffic violation stop, or involved in a fast chase or responding to an emergency, these incidents will be videotaped.
- The installation of the new METERS software which provides our police department investigative tools to conduct information inquiries on persons that have committed crimes.

Previously we had to rely on other agencies for this information.

- The acquisition of a \$7,000.00 grant from the local State Highway Administration Office for the enforcement of Driving While Intoxicated, Pedestrian Safety, and Aggressive Driving.
- 38% Reduction in overall crime in the Town of Edmonston as a result of increased police presence and visibility.
- Updated our police department web page, providing additional information to our residents.
- We have signed a mutual aid agreement with the Bladensburg Police Department for the purpose of sharing resources. This is in addition to our agreements already in place with Cottage City and Colmar Manor. We continue to work on developing additional agreements with other neighboring agencies.
- There are many other accomplishment that are less apparent to the general public but have provided substantial improvements to the service we provide to our community.

With your continued support and support of our dedicated Mayor and Council we will continue to provide excellent services and improve the quality of life for all of our residents and businesses, moving forward and making our community safer and a great place to live and work.

## De la oficina de Jefe de la Policía

Mensaje del jefe

2009 - El año en revisión!

Al comenzar otra década en el siglo XXI Edmonston continúa avanzar en la mejora de nuestros servicios a la Comunidad y hacer de esto un gran lugar para vivir y trabajar. Enumerados a continuación son algunos de los logros alcanzados por el departamento de policía de durante el último año. Con su ayuda continua y apoyo seguiremos avanzar y mejorar nuestra comunidad.

Algunos de los logros y las iniciativas de 2009 del departamento del policía son:

- compra de un automóvil nuevo de policía; esto completa un reemplazo completo de nuestra flota de envejecimiento desde 2007.
- Ahora estamos en un programa de sustitución de vehículo regular.
- Hemos recibido un premio de aproximadamente \$ 40,000.00 para reemplazar a nuestra actual en coche de las cámaras.
- Esto permite a nuestro departamento de policía garantizar la adecuada rendición de cuentas para los oficiales de todos lo que están tomando medidas de aplicación.
- Concretamente esto significa que cuando policías están haciendo una parada de violación de tráfico, o implicados en una persecución rápida o en respuesta a una emergencia, estos incidentes se ser filmados.
- La instalación del nuevo software de metros que ofrece a nuestra policía herramientas de investigación de departamento a llevar a cabo investigaciones de información sobre las personas que han cometido crímenes.

- Anteriormente hemos tenido que depender de otros organismos para obtener esta información.
- La adquisición de un 7,000.00 \$ conceder desde la Oficina de administración de Autopista estatal local para la ejecución de driving while intoxicado, seguridad peatonal y conducción agresiva.
- 38 % Reducción en crimen general en la ciudad de Edmonston como resultado de policía mayor presencia y visibilidad.
- Actualizado nuestra página de web de departamento de policía, proporcionar información adicional para nuestros residentes.
- Hemos firmado un acuerdo de ayuda mutua con el departamento de policía de Bladensburg con el fin de compartir los recursos.
- Esto es además de nuestros acuerdos ya en vigor con la ciudad de Cottage y Colmar Manor.
- Seguimos trabajando en el desarrollo de acuerdos adicionales con otros organismos de vecinos.

Hay muchos otros logros que son menos evidentes para el público en general pero han proporcionado mejoras sustanciales en el servicio que brindamos a nuestra comunidad.

Con su continuo apoyo y el apoyo de nuestro dedicado alcalde y el concejo seguiremos proporcionar excelentes servicios y mejorar la calidad de vida para todos nuestros residentes y negocios, avanzando y haciendo nuestra comunidad más seguro y un gran lugar para vivir y trabajar.

*The following is a list of activities officers initiated or received a call requesting service or assistance.*

	October	November
Accidents	4	1
Alarms	9	9
Armed Suspects	0	1
Arrests	5	3
Assaults	0	1
Assist Fire Department	2	1
Breaking & Entering Residential	0	2
7Breaking & Entering Commercial	0	0
Carjacking	0	0
Check on welfare of resident	1	1
Death Report	0	0
Disorderly	18	8
Domestic Disturbances	0	3
Fights	0	2
Homicide	0	0
Juvenile Complaints	0	0
Loud Parties	0	0
Maryland Moving Violations Issued	42	28
Robberies	1	1
Recovered Stolen Autos	4	3
Security check of premises	0	0
Sound of gunshots	0	0
Stolen Autos	3	0
Suspicious Persons	12	6
Suspicious Vehicles	8	4
Thefts	8	6
Traffic Stops	45	36
Town Citations	95	88
Unknown trouble calls	4	1
Vehicle Impounds	1	6
Vandalism	3	1
Warnings/Safety Repair Orders	29	18
911 hang-up calls	7	8
<u>Code Enforcement Activity</u>		
Verbal Warnings	17	27
Parking Tickets	14	38
Municipal Citations issued	0	4
Enforcement/Warning Letters	3	4
Citizens Complaints	2	3
Stop work orders	0	0
Animal Complaints	0	2
Successful Compliances	15	9
Ongoing/Follow up Investigations	18	12
Assist Other Agency or Dept	2	5
Impounds	2	1

## *¡Estudios Universitarios a su Alcance! Un Taller Gratis en Español*

### **Estudios Universitarios a su Alcance Un Taller Gratis en Español**

sábado, 6 de febrero, 2010 de 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. en el edificio “Adele H. Stamp Student Union” en la Universidad de Maryland, College Park Información en Español para padres y estudiantes de todas las escuelas del condado

#### **Grados**

- 12 Como pagar los gastos de la Universidad y ayuda en llenar el formulario del FAFSA
- 11 El proceso de aplicación a la Universidad y para la ayuda financiera
- 9 y 10 Como tener éxito en la escuela y prepararse para la Universidad
- 6, 7 y 8 Preparación temprana para su sueño universitario

¡Y Más! • Feria Universitaria Bilingüe • Feria de agencias comunitarias • Invitados de honor • Desayuno • Paseos Universitarios • Información para adultos también • ¡Gane premios donados por las empresas del área!

Patrocinado por la Oficina de Consejería Escolar Profesional, Departamento de Servicios Estudiantiles, Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Prince George, en colaboración con la Universidad de Maryland, College Park.

Para más información llame al 301-445-8460.

## *A College Education Is Within Your Reach - A Free Workshop in Spanish*

Saturday, February 6, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. –

1:00 pm Adele H. Stamp Student Union, University of Maryland, and College Park

Information in Spanish for parents and students of all county schools

#### **Grade**

- 12 How to pay for college and help in filling out the FAFSA
- 11 How to apply to college and how to get financial aid
- 9 & 10 How to succeed in high school and prepare for college
- 6, 7 & 8 Early preparation for your college dream

And More! • Bilingual College Fair • Community Agency Fair • Guest Speakers • Refreshments • Tours of the university campus • Information for adults also • Win door prizes donated by area businesses!

Sponsored by the Office of Professional School Counseling, Division of Student Services, Prince George’s County Public Schools in collaboration with the University of Maryland, College Park

For More Information: call 301-445-8460

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## *The Decatur Street Project* *“GREEN STREET PROJECT”*

Following is the speech that Mayor Ortiz gave during Groundbreaking ceremony.

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Several years ago much of this town was underwater. Year after year, we suffered terrible flooding, with as many 56 homes affected. The damages were substantial: furniture, books and even automobiles were lost. In some cases, families lost absolutely everything save the clothes they were wearing.

Though, contrary to conventional wisdom, we did not flood from the Anacostia River that is only a few yards away.

We flooded from parking lots. We flooded from highways, shopping centers, roofs. We flooded from streets. We flooded from the indifference of builders, planners and decision makers who did not take environmental responsibility seriously.

But with the resilience of our residents, who stuck together and fought, and the heroic assistance of then-Councilman (and now Senator) David Harrington, our new flood pumping station powered with screws fashioned in the screw-shaped design of the ancient Greek mathematician Archimedes.

Through this ordeal we learned a lot. We learned that environmental neglect comes at a cost -- and that cost is paid by someone, somewhere, at some time. The price of environmental irresponsibility, in this case bad storm water management, was paid for many years in Edmonston -- but no more.

As we have learned the lessons, we must apply them to ourselves. All streets have an expiration date, a time when they must be restructured, resurfaced and paved. The date for Decatur Street was coming due, and we decided to do it right. We decided to build the greenest street we possibly could.

From top to bottom, we have worked with partners to re-conceptualize the American Main Street. At the top, we will have a large canopy featuring native trees such as maples, oaks and sycamores. Then, our streetlights will utilize light emitting diode (LED) fixtures powered by clean wind energy purchased through the credit system. At street level, we have narrowed the street and made it curve or "wobble," with bump out to slow traffic down. We will have bike lanes and wide sidewalks connecting to our parks, trails and transit, to encourage community interaction, health and wellness.

And most importantly, at the surface and underground levels, stormwater will not flow into

the storm drains and into our river and the Bay, but will be diverted into natural bioretention tree boxes to naturally filter the water into the ground, mimicking the way it was centuries ago when this area was wilderness.

Although the dirt, machinery, and workers involved in this project may appear to be the same as any other, they aren't. If you look closer, you see that they are now green.

Engineers, contractors, laborers, electricians are now becoming the bedrock of the green economy. When this project is over, we will have directly produced or preserved approximately 50 jobs.

Our town was first established by the Plummer family, freed slaves from the Calvert plantation who had a vision for a better life. Today, we are still a small community of 1400 people, approximately a third white, a third black, and a third latino. We are diverse in every way, except we don't have any rich people.

You will not see Volvos or lexus in this town unless they are passing through. We are working class -- the little guys.

And if our little working class town can build a sustainable street like this, anybody can and everybody should.

When we are completed we will be placing our designs and engineering drawings on our website.

Navigating the recovery process was not easy; we must give special thanks to our committed partners: Jana Davis and Allen Hance of the Chesapeake Bay Trust, Brigid Kenney and the MDE staff, and especially Dominique Luekenoff, master of federal bureaucracy in EPA Region III. Must also thank our hardworking police and staff, especially Guy Tiberio.

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*Thank you for your Patience while we continue to work on our "Green Street"*

